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OUR FOREIGN VISITORS FROM 1947 THROUGH 1956

GEORGE T. PALMER, DR. P.H.

Consultant in Public Health Training and Administration, California State Department of Public Health

"How do you do, Dr. Srivamacharyulu, I want you to meet Doctor Ou, from Taiwan. Dr. Srivamacharyulu is from India."

Some of the foreign names are strange to us. Some are very long, some very short. Regardless of the initial difficulty in pronunciation, the opportunity to meet these professional public health people from all parts of the world has been a delightful and stimulating experience. We are deeply indebted to the World Health Organization, the International Cooperation Administration, the U. S. Public Health Service, the U. S. Children's Bureau, the American-Korean Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the American College of Surgeons, and other groups for thus indicating a confidence that California's health departments and other related facilities are of a caliber to warrant this attention.

Language Barrier Overcome

For the most part, our visitors speak and understand English very well. In a few instances the visiting groups have been accompanied by able interpreters. While lacking a knowledge of the languages of all our visitors, the reception office has been able to call on any one of 81 people in the State Department of Public Health who altogether understand 16 different languages.

It was interesting to watch the astonishment and the smiles on the faces of a group from Okinawa on being welcomed in the reception office

by Mrs. Jeanne Yamamoto, of the Accounting Section, who spoke to them in Japanese. We have just been able to return a lost letter to Israel with the writer's name and address spelled out in Hebrew.

Over 500 Visitors

During the 10-year period from January, 1947, through December, 1956, we have been privileged to receive some 538 foreign visitors. Early records are somewhat incomplete and it is possible that another 10 or 15 should be added to the list.

Our visitors came from 61 different countries, spread over the world, including Afghanistan, Nepal, the Belgian Congo, New Zealand, Egypt, Haiti, Indonesia, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Uruguay, and elsewhere.

The eight countries with the greatest number of visitors were:

Philippines	95
Japan	55
China	30
Germany	30
Taiwan	25
Egypt	23
Korea	22
India	21

The annual number of visitors has varied from year to year, with the peak coming in 1956. The numbers by year are:

1947	11	1952	43
1948	38	1953	66
1949	41	1954	55
1950	44	1955	75
1951	53	1956	112

The diversified interests of visitors have reached out to practically all

units in both the state and local health departments. The time spent in California has ranged from part of a day to five months—with the majority of visits limited to from one to three weeks.

The service to visitors begins usually with a request from the sponsoring agency. The U. S. Public Health Service has referred the greatest number.

Professional Interests Met

How can we best serve our visitors? This is hard to answer. As it is they talk with people within their fields of interest and go into the field to see things in action—a water treatment plant, a sewage disposal system, mosquito abatement district, sanitarians and nurses in their field work, physicians in child health centers, hospitals, food and drug and canning operations, statistical activities, laboratories, financial and administrative procedures, classes at the School of Public Health, and meetings of citizen groups to discuss public health matters.

We plan to serve our visitor's interests. We begin by discussing the subject with the visitor at the start. What problems does he face when he returns home? What has he already observed in his visits to the United States? We then offer him possible experiences in California and make arrangements with state and local health departments, the University and other agencies to best meet his needs.

What ideas does the visitor take home with him? That is difficult to say. We do know that they evidence appreciation, verbally and in the many, many profusely friendly letters which we receive. We endeavor to display our wares and our ideas, and by questioning learn something of their problems and their operations.

The utilization of what is seen and heard here is a matter that the visitor has to work out on his return home.

We cannot refrain from mentioning a deep sense of respect for the painstaking labors of our government agencies here and abroad. Especially are we most thankful to the Training Office of the U. S. Public Health Service in Washington and the Regional Office of the Service, here in San Francisco, for their unflinching courtesy and assistance in making the visitor's program fruitful.

Personal Services

The problems faced in the reception office are many, ranging from discussion with the visitor as to program, appointments with the state health units and local health departments concerned, as well as the School of Public Health, other state departments, hospitals, hotel reservations, and the like, even including Hollywood—where we had little success.

Mixed in with the above are changes in time of arrival and departure, unexpected absence of people from their office, all necessitating changes in schedule, and communication with the people concerned. Sometimes checks from Washington do not arrive when expected and a hurry-up phone call or telegram or letter has to be sent. Mail is received, delivered and forwarded.

Over the years many checks have been endorsed, a few checks have been lost for a time, and loans of money have had to be made to help out in a tight spot, but there have been no casualties, and reimbursements have been made promptly in every instance.

We have not made a special point of entertainment, but numerous invitations to dinners and evening meetings have been received. The International Hospitality Center in San Francisco, with their many volunteer car drivers, have assisted splendidly

in showing visitors points of interest outside the field of public health.

Expression of Appreciation

A further expression of appreciation is due the local health officers of California and their staffs, and the numerous members of the staff of the State Health Department for their fine cooperation and willingness to devote their time and attention on repeated occasions to our visitors from abroad in the true sense of international cooperation.

We have enjoyed seeing the write-ups and pictures of visitors in local newspapers. We are sure that the visitors like this attention. Such accounts, likewise, give insight to local readers of our friendly international relations.

Comments From Our Visitors

As a parting note may we quote from the letters of two visitors:

"I have learned so many professional things in the States, but above all received a lesson in humanity and generosity, of which our good old Europe—which is still so deeply attached to its egotisms and particularisms should gain a lot."

and—

"I was proud of the fact that I was able to get to know such people as you are. I was delighted with your department and the Americans in general. The thought about you will be dear to me in the future always."

Visitors to the State Health Department since September, 1956, are listed below by country.

ASIA

Iraq

Dr. M. Mahmoud M. Ibrahim, Deputy General of Health in charge of Preventive Medicine, Baghdad.

Japan

Sachio Maito, Technical Officer, Water Works and Sewage Section of the Environmental Sanitation Division, Public Sanitation Bureau, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Tokyo.

Korea

Dr. Chong Whee Chun, Professor of Communicable Diseases, Seoul National University, College of Medicine, Seoul.

Dr. Wun Sung Whang, Chief, Medical Supply Section, Bureau of Pharmaceutical Affairs, Ministry of Health, Seoul.

Nepal

Gahendra B. Rajbhandary, Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Lalitpur, Patan.

Okinawa

Miss Taeko Kinjo, Chief Public Health Nurse, Public Health Section, Department of Social Affairs, Ogimi.

Miss Wobuko Madanbashi, Chief Nurse, Social Affairs Department, Naha.

Miss Hiromi Oshiro, Instructor, Okinawa Midwifery School, Yabu.

Philippines

Mr. Gonzalo A. Bantugan, X-ray Technician and Hospital Engineer, Department of Health, Manila.

Mr. Enrique L. Marcelo, X-ray Technician and Hospital Engineer, Department of Health, Manila.

Taiwan

Dr. Wen-pin Chang, Lecturer, Department of Public Health, National Taiwan University, Taipei.

Mr. Yung Dah-Fong, Director, Institute of Environment Sanitation, Taiwan Provincial Government, Taipei.

Dr. Czau Siung Yang, Associate Professor, College of Medicine, National Taiwan University, Taipei.

EUROPE

Denmark

Dr. E. Jeul Henningsen, Deputy Director General, National Health Service, Copenhagen.

Dr. Mogens Faber, Special Medical Adviser on the Danish Atomic Energy Commission, Copenhagen.

Germany

Dr. Rolf Herbert Heinrich Langmann, Health Officer, City of Mulheim, Ruhr.

Netherlands

Dr. George Cath, Director General of Green Cross, Amsterdam.

Norway

Dr. Aage Haagenrud, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Board of Health, Ministry of Social Affairs, Directorate of Health, Oslo.

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Dr. Luis Siri, Director General, Department of Foreign Sanitation Relations, Ministry of Welfare and Public Health, Buenos Aires.

Brazil

Dr. Joaquin Rossini, Chief of Emergency Hospitals, Sao Paulo.

OTHER

New Zealand

Dr. Gordon L. L. Dempster, Director of Tuberculosis, New Zealand Department of Health, Wellington.

It's not a question of getting the vaccine (polio) to the people. It's a question of getting the people to the vaccine.

This Week

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Vol. 6, No. 7

Air Pollution Problem Increases in State

Air pollution in California increased as an urban problem in 1956, heavily blanketing some metropolitan centers and spreading into fringe rural areas.

During 1956, the San Francisco Bay area and San Diego experienced an increase in the intensity of air pollution and agricultural crop damage was noted in 13 county areas bordering metropolitan centers.

Highlights of the California State Department of Public Health's third annual report on air pollution to Governor Goodwin J. Knight are:

1. Within most of the present air pollution control districts the areas affected by smog continue to expand. This is attributed, in large extent, to increasing urbanization of rural areas near metropolitan centers.

2. Measurements in 1956 showed that contaminated air has traveled more than 20 miles across land and more than 100 miles over the open sea.

3. Damage to 44 kinds of field, flower, fruit, ornamental and vegetable crops, including such economically significant ones as alfalfa, beets, grapes and lettuce. Commercial growers suffered crop losses in Napa, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco, San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Diego Counties.

4. With the use of radioactive materials rapidly increasing in California, the monitoring of fallout and observance of the effect of these materials on humans has become a permanent part of the department's air pollution program.

5. It has not been scientifically possible yet in California to link death with smog episodes, according to a continuing study of mortality in 90 Los Angeles nursing homes.

6. Medical studies in the effect of smog on health include, asthma, pulmonary function and cancer.

7. Still in question is exactly what air pollution has on the health of people; what in smog causes eye irritation; what are the methods that can be used to control major sources of pollution, and what are the maximum concentrations of contaminants



(Photo courtesy Fresno Bee)

"COME ON!" Nancy Lee Braun, 5, encourages her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Braun of Fresno, to get their polio immunizations. Nancy knows what polio is like. She contracted the disease in 1953. Now one leg and her back are partly paralyzed. Behind the Brauns is part of the crowd participating in the first of a series of clinics held in Fresno. The California State Department of Public Health continues to urge all Californians to do as the Brauns and get their polio immunizations as a family unit as fast as vaccine is available. More than enough time remains for everyone to receive the first two shots of the recommended series of three before the start of the current disease season. The recommended interval between the first and second shot is approximately one month, but can be longer. The third shot should follow the second in about seven months. For your family's sake, vaccinate.

that can be in the air without affecting health, enjoyment of life or crops. These questions must be resolved before air pollution can be properly assessed and control programs become effective.

The report states that efforts to control automobile exhaust fumes, believed to be the principal sources of pollution forming compounds in California metropolitan areas by most investigators, must be continued.

In addition, the report suggests it may be time to consider some fundamental control measures such as, planning freeways to eliminate high concentrations of motor vehicles in downtown areas; developing rapid

transit systems to transport people to downtown areas; and evolving new methods of moving people about in downtown areas.

Although air pollution conditions have not reached serious levels except in the metropolitan areas, it is important to know how much margin of safety is left in less populous places. Measurements are therefore needed in all sections of California in order to follow the trends of air quality throughout the State.

In the period 1948 to 1956 the number of cases in juvenile courts increased 70 percent.—*Children's Bureau.*

Dr. Merrill Heads Air Pollution Committee

Dr. Malcolm Merrill, Director, California State Department of Public Health, has accepted the chairmanship of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Community Air Pollution Demonstration Projects of the U. S. Public Health Service. The six-man committee is composed of representatives from state and local government agencies, industry, universities and professional associations.

With the passage of the Air Pollution Research and Technical Assistance Act of 1955, Public Law 159, Eighty-fourth Congress, the Public Health Service has been implementing and organizing the various segments of the community air pollution program and is planning to initiate a program of grants-in-aid to state and local agencies for demonstration projects in the field of air pollution.

The committee, which is a non-federal advisory group, will review and evaluate proposed demonstration projects and make recommendations to the Public Health Service on grant applications. In addition, the committee will advise the Public Health Service generally on the development and conduct of the demonstration project grant program.

Nursing Director Appointed

Appointment of Helen Wolfe as director of public health nursing for the Los Angeles City Health Department was announced today by the board of health commissioners.

Miss Wolfe, former director of public health nursing for the City of Richmond, California, had been filling the position on an interim basis following the recent retirement of Edna Hedenberg, her predecessor.

She holds the degree of bachelor of science as well as master of public health from Columbia University.

The common cold is still the most expensive disease known to man. Colds cost the nation about 2 billion dollars annually and are responsible for 60 percent of all time lost on jobs.

Michigan's Health, January, 1957, Vol. 45, No. 1.

Long Beach Program Completed For Western Branch, APHA

Public health workers in California and the other Western States will converge on Long Beach May 29-June 1 for the 24th Annual Meeting of the Western Branch, American Public Health Association. All sessions will be held in the Lafayette Hotel. A. Harry Bliss, Chairman of the School of Public Health, U.C.L.A., and president of Western Branch, announces that the first day of the three-day conclave will be taken up

with meetings of the eight sections of Western Branch. The first general session will be held on the morning of May 30, with the annual banquet that evening.

The California Association of Sanitarians will meet May 28, joining with the Sanitation Section of Western Branch in the section meeting on May 29.

The program has been announced as follows:

WESTERN BRANCH, AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION PROGRAM

Lafayette Hotel, Long Beach, California

May 29-June 1, 1957

Note: All General Sessions will be in the Supper Room

THURSDAY, MAY 30

First General Session

Chairman: A. Harry Bliss, President of Western Branch

9.00 a.m. Invocation: Reuben F. Pieters, D.D., Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Long Beach.

The Honorable George M. Vermillion, Mayor of Long Beach.

Welcome: Irving D. Litwack, M.D., Health Officer of Long Beach.

Clarence Wagner, President, Long Beach Board of Health.

Leon L. Wiltse, M.D., President, Long Beach Branch of Los Angeles County Medical Association.

9.30 a.m. Address: Dr. John Knutson, President, American Public Health Association.

10.00 a.m. Panel Discussion: *The Control of Heart Disease—Is It the Health Department's Business?*

Moderator: Harold M. Erickson, M.D., Executive Officer, Oregon State Board of Health, Portland, Oregon.

Panel Members:

William Stewart, M.D., Assistant Director, National Heart Institute, Washington, D. C.

Lester Breslow, M.D., Chief, Bureau of Chronic Diseases, California State Department of Public Health, Berkeley.

Wallace Frasher, Jr., M.D., Los Angeles, California.

Second General Session

Chairman: G. R. F. Elliot, M.D., Assistant Provincial Health Officer, Department of Health and Welfare, Vancouver, B. C., Canada.

2.00 p.m. *Who's Sick? How Can We Find Out?*

1. *California Health Survey*—R. William Mooney, Ph.D., Senior Social Research Technician, California State Department of Public Health, Berkeley.

2. *National Health Survey*—Theodore D. Woolsey, Assistant Director, National Health Survey Program, U. S. P. H. S., Washington, D. C.

3. *Mental Health Surveys*—John D. Porterfield, M.D., Assistant Surgeon-General, U. S. P. H. S., Washington, D. C.

General Discussion

5.15 p.m. Hospitality Hour—Grand Ballroom

7.00 p.m. Annual Banquet—Supper Room. Speaker: Sir Andrew Davidson, former Chief, Scottish Ministry of Health, London, England.

FRIDAY, MAY 31

Third General Session

Chairman: Roy Cleere, M.D., Executive Director, State Department of Public Health, Denver, Colorado.

9.00 a.m. *Poison Control Centers*—Donald A. Sutherland, M.D., Clinical Instructor in Pediatrics, University of Washington, School of Medicine, Seattle.

Western Branch Takes a Look at Traineeship Programs

1. **Health Amendment Act of 1956 (P.L. 911)**—Jack C. Haldeman, M.D., Chief, Division of General Health Services, U. S. P. H. S., Washington, D. C.
2. **Health Careers Project**—Howard Ennes, Director, Bureau of Public Health, Equitable Life Assurance Society of U. S., New York, N. Y.

10.30 a.m. **A Five-Year Nutrition Study in San Mateo County**—Robert M. Drake, M.D., Robert W. Buechley, M.A., Lester Breslow, M.D., Chief, Bureau of Chronic Diseases, California State Department of Public Health, Berkeley, and Harold D. Choate, M.D., Director of Health and Welfare, San Mateo County, California.

The Food Habits and Nutrient Intake of an Aging Group in San Mateo County—Helen L. Gillum, Ph.D., Associate Biochemist, Agricultural Experiment Station, U. C., Berkeley.

11.00 a.m. **Sippy Award**—Earle T. Dewey, M.D., Chairman of John J. Sippy Memorial Committee, Assistant Medical Director, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, San Francisco.

11.15 a.m. **Business Meeting.**

Fourth General Session

Chairman: Frederic Kriete, M.D., Assistant Chief, Division of Preventive Medical Service, California State Department of Public Health, Berkeley.

2.00 p.m. **Health Problems of Migratory Labor**—(Not confirmed)

SATURDAY, JUNE 1**Fifth General Session**

Chairman: Frank Williams, Director of Health Education, Arizona Department of Public Health, Phoenix.

9.30 a.m. **Public Health Meets the Press**—Question and answer period:

A. P. H. A. team of experts and selected press representatives from western states.

A. P. H. A. Team: Dr. William Stewart, Assistant Director, National Heart Institute, Bethesda, Md.

Dr. John Kautson, Chief Dental Officer, U. S. P. H. S., Washington, D. C.
Howard Ennes, Director, Bureau of Public Health, Equitable Life Assurance Co., New York, N. Y.

Dr. Reginald M. Atwater, Executive Secretary, A. P. H. A., New York, N. Y.

Press Representatives:

Christian M. Clauson, Science Editor, Los Angeles *Examiner*, Los Angeles, California.

William Marton, Los Angeles *Examiner* Science Department, Los Angeles, California.

Tom W. Riley, Oakland *Tribune*, Berkeley Bureau, California.

William Boquist, San Francisco *Examiner*, San Francisco, California.

10.30 a.m. **General Discussion:**

- a. Subjects previously considered in General Session and Section Programs.
- b. Questions and comments from the floor.

Highlights of the section meetings, all of which are scheduled for May 29th, are:

Health Education Section

In the morning Edward Stainbrook, Ph.D., M.D., Professor and Chairman, Department of Psychiatry, University of Southern California, will speak on "Communication." Afternoon subjects include "Attitudes of Californians Toward Air Pollution," "The Effect of Teacher Experience in the Local Health Department," "In-school Viewing of Television Programs for Health Education," and "Teen-age Venereal Disease Information and 'Attitude' Survey."

Epidemiology Section

The morning session will be with the Laboratory Section for presentations on staphylococcal infections and on tuberculosis. At a luncheon meeting Robert Dyar, M.D., Chief, Division of Preventive Medical Services, California State Department of Public Health, will speak on the subject "Restatement of Principles and Objectives of the Epidemiology Section." Afternoon subjects will include "Epidemiology in Noncommunicable Diseases and Conditions," and "What Goes on in Public Health?"

Laboratory Section

Meets in the morning with Epidemiology Section. Afternoon session to be announced.

Sanitation Section

The general theme will be "Environmental Aspects of the Rapid Growth in the Far Western States." Morning topics will include "Physiological Effect on Man and Animal From the Increase in Background Radiation" and "Itinerant Food Handling—Physical and Operational Problems." In the afternoon the topics will be "A Woman Looks at Subdivisions," "Two Views on Farm Labor Camps," "Disaster—Planning and Execution," "An Illustration of the Public Health Significance of Domestic Water Main Disinfection," and "Suburbanitis."

Industrial Hygiene Section

Morning topics will include "The Plastics Industry—A Dynamic Industrial Health Problem," "Toxic Hazards in the Plastics Industry," "Who's Hurt?" and "Measuring Outdoor Occupations." Afternoon topics will be "Disaster Preparedness Responsibilities," "The Growth of Industrial Hygiene and Air Pollution Research Activities in Washington State," and "Legislative Control of Radiation Exposures." "Management Looks at the Widening Horizons in Occupational Health" is the title of the speech to be delivered at the section's dinner meeting.

Statistics Section

"Cardiovascular Diseases" is the subject of the morning presentation, to be followed by "Performance Budgeting and Work Measurement"; the latter is also the subject of a panel discussion from the point of view of several disciplines. The subject of the afternoon session is to be announced.

Venereal Disease Section

During the morning sessions the following topics will be discussed: "Observations of the California State Department of Public Health with Treponemal Tests," "Western Hemisphere Venereal Disease Epidemiologic Exchange Program," "Current California Problems and

Trends in Venereal Disease Control," and "Educational Approaches to the Control of Venereal Disease in the Teen-ager." Edmund G. Brown, Attorney General of California, will present the subject "Responsibility of the State Attorney General's Office in the Repression of Prostitution" at the morning session. "Experiences With Treponema Immobilization Test in the Southern California Area," "Treponema Pallidum Complement Fixation Test," "Private Physicians Cooperative Epidemiology in Venereal Disease Control," "Blood Testing and Treatment of Migrant Farm Workers During 1956," and "Integration of a Venereal Disease Control Program Into an Adult Health Program" are the topics under discussion at the section's afternoon meeting.

Food and Nutrition Section

A series of papers will be read in the morning session on the relationship of vitamins, fatty acids, and nutrition to atherosclerosis. Frederick J. Stare, M.D., Ph.D., will deliver the luncheon address, entitled "Problems in Nutrition." Afternoon topics include "Chemicals in Food," "Effect of Ionizing Radiation on Food," and "Principles and Techniques in Nutrition Education."

NFIP Scholarships

Fellowship and scholarship grants ranging up to \$6,000 per year are again being offered by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Grants are available to qualified persons for post-doctoral study, and at the graduate and undergraduate level. Complete information may be obtained by writing to the Division of Professional Education, National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, 301 East Forty-second Street, New York 17.

Social Hygiene Day

"Invest in Family Futures" is the theme of National Social Hygiene Day which will be observed on the 24th of April. The American Hygiene Association urges that communities work for widespread observance of the day and emphasizes the fact that venereal diseases are still a problem of public health importance.

Poison Control Clearinghouse Established in State, Nation

In response to the increased development of poison information centers throughout California and the United States, a national clearinghouse on poison control in the U. S. Public Health Service and a state clearinghouse in the State Department of Public Health began operation almost simultaneously early in March.

At least 13 poison information centers are currently operating in California and several others are being planned. The first began in the Department of Pediatrics, University of California Medical Center, Los Angeles, in September, 1956, under the sponsorship of the Southern California Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. The others, in San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, Martinez, San Leandro, San Pablo, San Mateo, San Jose, Santa Clara and San Rafael, began operation in December of last year under the sponsorship of the San Francisco Bay Poison Control Committee. This committee includes representatives from each medical society and health department in the nine Bay counties. It was initially financed by contributions of these medical societies and has received assistance from the San Francisco Chapter of the National Safety Council.

The basic idea behind poison information centers is to make immediately available to any physician information on the ingredients of toxic materials a child or adult may have swallowed, and the recommended antidotes and treatment.

The California clearinghouse, in cooperation with its national counterpart, will keep poison control centers in California up-to-date on important new toxic products; "keep score" on the extent and kinds of poisoning in California; aid in the development of poison control centers; and assist local health departments in studies on the epidemiology of poisoning and in the development of better preventive programs.

The California clearinghouse is in the Bureau of Maternal and Child Health, State Department of Public Health, under the direction of Leslie Corsa, Jr., M.D. The national clear-

SPECIAL CENSUS RELEASES *

Special Census of California cities, *Series P-28 San Mateo County: San Carlos (966); Los Angeles County: Azusa (967)*.

Provisional Estimates of the Population of the United States, January 1, 1950, to December 1, 1956. *Current Population Reports, Population Characteristics*, January 17, 1957, *Series P-25 (150)*.

Estimates of the Civilian Population of States, by Broad Age Groups, July 1, 1955. *Current Population Reports, Population Estimates*, February 11, 1957, *Series P-25 (151)*.

The Monthly Report on the Labor Force: November, 1956, *Current Population Reports, Labor Force*, December, 1956, *Series P-57 (173)*.

Copies of these releases may be obtained from: Library, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, United States Department of Commerce at 419 Customs Building, 555 Battery Street, San Francisco, California, or at Room 450, 1031 South Broadway, Los Angeles, California.

* In ordering, specify series and number as shown in parentheses. These numbers are not population figures.

inghouse is under the direction of James L. Goddard, M.D., Chief, Accident Prevention Unit, Bureau of State Services, U. S. Public Health Service. Neither will be fully staffed until July of this year, but both are offering limited consultative and statistical services at present.

Poison control has also been prominent in the program of the Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Society's Child Welfare Committee. Over 1,500 cases a year now reported to the medical society by emergency hospitals are under study by the committee to determine the time of day most occur and the causative factors in the poisoning. In the near future five local health departments in the Bay area, with assistance from the State Department of Public Health, will undertake more intensive studies of poisonings as they are reported.

285 Public Health Nursing Certificates Granted

During 1956, the State Board of Public Health granted public health nursing certificates to 285 nurses who had completed an accredited university or college program of study in public health nursing.

Within the past 10 years, 2,062 nurses have been granted their public health nursing certificates. The 1956 total represents the largest number of certificates given in any year during this period.

Nearly two-thirds of the nurses certificated in 1956 obtained their preparation at universities in California (see Table I). Before 1953, less than one-half of the nurses received their training in California. Since that time, the basic programs at the University of California in Berkeley

and in Los Angeles and at Stanford University have been accredited for public health nursing.

The out-of-state institutions from which the largest number of nurses came in 1956 were the Universities of Washington (20), Minnesota (12), Colorado (9), and Oregon (7).

With few exceptions, nurses who obtain their public health nursing preparation after graduating from a school of nursing and are granted the state public health nursing certificate enter the field of public health. Many of the graduates of collegiate basic programs who are certificated accept nursing positions outside the field of public health. One hundred forty-five of the nurses certificated in 1956 took their public health nursing preparation after graduating from a school of nursing and 140 obtained their preparation in a collegiate basic program.

TABLE I

	Total	1955 Post graduate	Collegiate basic	Total	1956 Post graduate	Collegiate basic
Totals	284	125	159	285	145	140
California universities	189	52	137	185	76	109
University of California						
Berkeley	91	28	63	71	19	52
Los Angeles	34	24	10	80	57	23
Stanford University	64	--	64	34	--	34
Out-of-state universities	95	73	22	100	69	31

A Refreshing Outlook

We have come across what we believe to be both an excellent statement of public health philosophy and a refreshing viewpoint on the emotional issue of fluoridation. The following comments of Dr. Herbert Bauer, Health Officer of Yolo County, were taken from the 1956 Annual Report of the Yolo County Health Department.

"A proposition to fluoridate the public water supply in Woodland was defeated overwhelmingly at the polls. It would be easy for us to assume a righteous attitude and simply say 'well, the people had their chance.' However, from a public health standpoint this would certainly be an extremely poor view to take.

"It was most interesting to compare the votes in the various districts. In better-to-do areas with bigger houses, smaller families, and presumably higher education, there were more YES votes. The smaller the houses and the larger the families, the more

NO votes were cast. In other words, among those families who needed fluoridation least and could easier afford private dental care, the votes were more favorable. Among those who needed fluoridation more urgently and could ill afford private dental care, the votes were overwhelmingly unfavorable. The factual arguments prepared by the dental society, medical society, and health department in a joint educational campaign preceding the election, were in no way able to pierce the emotional wall surrounding the subject of fluoridation. In this respect it is not 'they' who lost, but actually we, since we have not been able to present the case in a form which would make the obvious remedy acceptable to those who are most urgently in need of it. The best we can hope for at this time is for the schools to increase their educational curriculum for dental hygiene, and perhaps for the county hospital to institute at least part-time dental service for the medically indigent population."

Nursing Programs

A conference and workshop for nurses will be given on the Berkeley campus of the University of California during the summer months of 1957.

The conference on "Developing the Curriculum for Associate Degree Programs in Nursing" is scheduled for June 19th-21st. A workshop on "Designing In-Service Education Programs" is slated for June 27th-29th.

Further information about the programs may be obtained by writing to the Department of Conferences and Special Activities, University of California Extension, Berkeley 4, California.

School Enrollment Mounts

Enrollment in the schools and colleges of the United States has increased about 1.6 million persons per year since October, 1953, according to a recent survey by the Bureau of the Census. The average yearly increases were 1.0 million for elementary and kindergarten enrollment and approximately 400,000 and 170,000 for high school and college enrollment, respectively.

At the beginning of the 1956-57 school year, enrollment continued to be virtually universal at ages 7 to 13 (99 percent). In the group 14 to 17 years of age, 88 percent were enrolled, as compared to 86 percent in 1953. The proportions enrolled for ages beyond 17 were also higher in 1956 than in 1953.

Health Officer Changes

Kings County

Paul Murphy, M.D., has been appointed to succeed P. K. Edmunds, M.D., as health officer of Kings County.

Placer County

J. Radford Linn, M.D., succeeds Ruth Moldenhauer, M.D., as health officer for Placer County.

City of Downey

The City of Downey, newly incorporated, has contracted with the Los Angeles County Health Department for health services. The health officer for Los Angeles County is Roy Gilbert, M.D.

City of Rolling Hills

The newly incorporated City of Rolling Hills is now served by the Los Angeles County Health Department under the direction of Roy Gilbert, M.D., health officer.

Laboratory Receives \$170,000 Annual Support Grant

The U. S. Public Health Service has approved an annual grant of \$170,000 for a five-year period to the Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory of the California State Department of Public Health for investigations including certain aspects of poliomyelitis, epidemic nausea and vomiting, central nervous system diseases of obscure etiology and certain aspects of the respiratory diseases caused in civilian populations by the newly discovered adeno-viruses.

The grant, which consolidates many smaller ones previously made by the Public Health Service, was made on a basis of general support to the laboratory in recognition of investigative work performed in the past, rather than on the usual project support basis.

Considerable latitude in the type and scope of investigation is afforded by this type of grant, which does not carry with it the restrictions generally associated with the project type grant.

Food Poisoning

An outbreak of food poisoning in a private residence has been reported by the Los Angeles City Health Department. Twelve persons became ill from two to 20 hours after eating sliced, boiled tongue. Symptoms consisted of cramps and diarrhea with an absence of vomiting. Six people who ate the meal did not become ill.

Laboratory examination was unable to establish the causative agent.

Public Health Positions

Orange County

Supervising Public Health Nurse: Salary range, \$440 to \$545. Second step in six months. California R.N. and P.H.N. certificate required plus three years experience.

Public Health Nurse: Salary range, \$375 to \$464. Second step in six months. California certificates for R.N. and P.H.N. required. For further information write, Orange County Personnel Department, 644 N. Broadway, Santa Ana, California.

Imperial County

Director of Sanitation: Salary range \$490-\$550. Recruiting at \$505. Generalized program; county car furnished; California registration required. Write Austin W. Matthis, M.D., Health Officer, 1007 Hamilton Avenue, El Centro, California.

San Diego County

Medical Social Work Consultant: Starting salary \$460. Those with bachelor's degree and appropriate experience including supervisory duties may qualify. For details, write County Civil Service, Room 403, Civic Center, San Diego 1.

Santa Barbara County

Sanitarian: Salary range, \$355 to \$433. Applicant must be registered sanitarian. Prefer man with degree in Public Health. Car furnished. Reply J. T. Nardo, M.D., Health Officer, P. O. Box 119, Santa Barbara.

San Bernardino County

Medical Examiner: Starting salary, \$786. To work in health department's pre-employment continuous medical examination program. California registration required. For further details write, San Bernardino County Civil Service Department, 236 Third Street, San Bernardino, California.

Algae, Mosquito Control to Be Studied

A two-year study to determine the relationship of blue-green algae to mosquito control will be undertaken by the Bureau of Vector Control,

California State Department of Public Health. The study is financed by a \$27,556 grant from the National Institute of Health.

Initial emphasis of the study will be the reasons for the absence of mosquitoes in rice fields where blue-green algae flourishes. Arrangements are being completed to contract with the Department of Soils and Plant Nutrition of the University of California to carry out the biochemical and physiological aspects of the study.

The department plans field experimentation if the study is productive.

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State Director of Public Health

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